

# Avoid making your own disinfectant, warns researcher

By [ASROL AWANG](#) - March 30, 2020 @ 5:01pm



Malaysians have been urged not to make their own home made disinfectant without consulting those who are knowledgeable in the science involved. - NSTP/ASWADI ALIAS.

KUANTAN: Malaysians have been urged not to make their own home made disinfectant without consulting those who are knowledgeable in the science involved.



University of Pahang Faculty of Engineering Technology (UMP) researcher Datin Prof Dr Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim said the caution was necessary to prevent any unwanted incident in the production of the anti-micro organism agent.

She said the main aspect was the need to be cautious when using chemicals which could bring about unwanted reactions such as fire which would endanger oneself.

"Testing against microbes also needs to be undertaken to ensure safe levels for use without any side effects.

"However, the most important thing is that the product manufactured is capable of killing germs," she said in a media statement here today.

Dr Mimi Sakinah also advised people who want to get a disinfectant to check the contents of the product and ensure that it contains either isopropyl alcohol or ethanol and the appropriate percentage to kill germs is between 70 to 75 per cent.

In addition, she said, consumers should also ensure that such disinfectant contains no harmful content such as triclosan, parabens and other chemicals which are deemed as being cancerous agents or result in

human hormone disruption.

"If you have sensitive skin, it is best to choose a gel-based liquid product that also contains aloe vera, glycerin and vitamin E which is good at maintaining skin moisture.

"But what is more important is that the product is made from a manufacturer who has been recognised or registered with the Malaysian Health Ministry (MoH)," she said.

Dr Mimi Sakinah also shared her 12 year experience in the production of 'Germs Free Hand Sanitiser' disinfectant products coupled with betel leaf extract to inhibit germ reproduction.

She said the product also contains Aloe Vera and Vitamin E extract which maintains skin moisture.

"This is in contrast to the existing germicidal fluids on the market, it can prevent skin irritation due to the use of ethanol, a petroleum based alcohol chemical.

"This innovation has been tested at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Biosurgery and Clinical Laboratory to ensure the product is safe to use.

"This product, so far has not had any side effects nor negative effects and many have provided a positive feed back," she said.